GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:90
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2001
DESTRUCTION OF CROPS IN BIHAR
SUBODH ROY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether large scale destruction of crops, fruits, vegetables, livestock is taking place in Bihar every year due to heavy and scanty rainfall;

(b) if so, the extent of such loss incurred in the state during the last three years;

(c) whether the economic condition of farmers of Bihar has worsened as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve the condition of the farmers and to compensate them?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (d): The State of Bihar is predominantly affectedby floods. Drought was reported in some parts of the State in 2001-02. As per the information available floods caused damage to 3.49 lakh hectare of cropped area in 1999, 1.63 lakh Hectares in 2000. Floods recurred in 2001 damaging 1.01 lakh Hectare. During the early part of monsoon, 2001, there was drought causing loss of 1.72 lakh hectares in terms of cropped area. Subsequent rains brought considerable improvement in the drought situation. Central Government contributed its share of the Calamity Relief Fund of Rs.45.05 crores in 1999-2000, 52.73 crores during 2000-01 andRs.26.36 crores so far during the current financial year.

Besides, Rs.38.18 crores were sanctioned during 1999-2000 from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) and Rs.29.67 crores from the National Calamity Contingency Fund druring 2000-01 (Which succeeded NFCR).

For the current year`s floods 1 lakh MT of Rice was issued free of cost to undertake the Food for Work Programme.

A number of schemes and programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development and WaterResources are under implementation to provide long-term benefits to the farmers.